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## BARRETT, MPS APPLAUD \$340,000 FEDERAL COPS GRANT TO HELP SECURE MILWAUKEE SCHOOLS

Funding will be used to improve technology, enhance safety efforts

MILWAUKEE (September 11, 2006) -- Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett and Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) Superintendent William Andrekopoulos are pleased to announce that the US Department of Justice has awarded the city with a total of \$344,861, as part of the US Department of Justice Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) "Secure Our Schools" Grant Program.

"At a time when our resources are being stretched to the max, this grant will go a long way in helping us improve the safety and security of our students at MPS," said Mayor Barrett. "Times have changed and we need to change with them. For all of our efforts to improve homeland security, we cannot forget about hometown security, especially when it comes to our children. I want to thank Senator Herb Kohl for recognizing our needs and for his assistance in obtaining this federal money."

The funding will be used to increase technology in a total of 24 MPS middle and K-8 schools. Specifically, the two-year grant will provide for the payment of up to 50 percent of the cost of assessment, training and equipment (improved lighting, cameras, monitors and alarms) for the schools.

"Cameras, monitors and other equipment act like extra sets of eyes in our schools," said Superintendent Andrekopoulos. "Our principals and teachers will be glad for the help in keeping our students safe."